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The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, AUGUST 20th, 1914.

A FEW DAYS ago there was published in the Chinese Press an announcement to the effect that the Chinese Government was considering the advisability of declaring a partial moratorium in consequence of the war in Europe. Doubtless this somewhat strange announcement has reference to the short-term loans which have fallen due. The Ministry of Finance on the 10th inst. issued a statement on the subject of these loans—"due to foreign banks, foreign firms, foreign companies and foreign shipbuilders"—in which it was announced that owing to the outbreak of the war and the consequent disorganisation of the money market, these payments could not be made, and the Government asked the Diplomatic Corps to "inform the foreign banks, foreign firms, foreign companies, foreign shipbuilders and all foreigners to whom short term debts are due by the Chinese Government, that payment must be delayed for the time being and that as soon as the situation in Europe has improved arrangements will be made to meet all obligations." It will be recognised that there is abundant justification for this declaration of a semi-moratorium by China, and we cannot doubt that it will receive the sympathetic and favourable consideration of the Powers concerned. We notice that one Chinese writer in a Peking paper says in effect that the Powers have only

themselves to blame. He says: "An overriding consideration in this connection is that the present situation has arisen out of what the Chinese Authorities describe as the protracted negotiations ending in the refusal of the Consortium-bankers to negotiate a loan of £7,000,000 for the liquidation of the unfunded debts of the Republic while willing to conclude one for this purpose if the amount was increased to cover currency reform. It will serve no useful purpose to enter into a discussion regarding the merits of the point at issue, although it is fair to observe that the Chinese Authorities can be hardly blamed for doubting the wisdom of a financial operation involving the payment of interest on several millions of sterling which admittedly could not be utilised for some time and necessarily would remain on deposit with the Bankers." However this may be, it cannot but be recognised that the heavy decline in the Customs revenue, the general disorganisation of trade and the enormous loss the Government would suffer in exchange owing to the current price of gold are reasons sufficient in themselves to merit favourable consideration of China's claim. Moreover it is pointed out that "even if the Authorities decided to pay, there would be no means or mode through which payment could be effected, since the channel indicated expressly or impliedly at the time the several commitments were incurred are closed for the present." The reference is to the international banking-houses which have suspended the transaction of exchange business. China is not seeking to delay the fulfilment of her obligations without good reason, and the experience of the past few years will have satisfied the country's creditors that China will be scrupulously careful to make arrangements for meeting all obligations "as soon as the situation in Europe has improved."

The Chief Justice of Hongkong, Sir Wm. Rees Davies, sat on the bench in the Divorce Court on 23rd ult. with the President, Sir Samuel Evans.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donation to the funds of the hospitals:—
Wilkinson & Grist \$20

The N.Y.K. European line passenger steamers *Katori Maru*, *Kamo Maru* and *Kasima Maru* have recently been equipped with wireless apparatus. It is anticipated that the example will probably be followed by the remainder of the liners.

Mr. A. M. Marshall, Agent of the Shanghai branch of the P. & O. Co., has announced that under instructions from the Managing Directors of the Company he has handed over charge of the Company's affairs at Shanghai to Mr. E. C. Richards.

A meeting was held in the Gordon Hall, Tientsin, on August 11th to discuss the means by which the British population of Tientsin may be able to help in the relief work, for the aid of the wounded, and the widows and children of those who have lost their lives while serving their country.

Mr. Ellis, the manager of the "Elite" Cinema Company, has handed to H.B.M. Consul-General at Canton a cheque for \$126.40 to be devoted to the relief of suffering caused by the West River floods. This generous donation represents the proceeds of a cinematograph performance given in the Canton Club Theatre under the auspices of the Consular Body. The cheque has been sent to the Honorary Treasurer, West River Flood Relief Fund, Hongkong.

TYPHOON IN SWATOW.

A correspondent writes:—Late on Friday evening, August 14th, a typhoon struck Swatow with terrific force, and with such disastrous consequences as to give it rank as one of the worst typhoons that Swatow has ever experienced. The typhoon lasted about thirteen hours and during that time the devastation which was done to shipping and property ashore ran into thousands of dollars. The Observatory was able to give timely warning of its approach; consequently, none of the coasting or ocean-going steamers had the misfortune to be wrecked or otherwise seriously damaged. Three or four launches were sunk including the unfortunate police launch. Some big junks and cargo-boats were sunk and several lives were lost in the stormy seas. A privately-owned hoseboat capsized in the vicinity, while a few sampans were battered to pieces against the sea-walls. The number of lives lost during this typhoon is not yet ascertained. Ashore, large numbers of big trees were blown down and many streets and lanes were flooded; in addition the electric lighting was completely subdued. The roofs and verandahs of some of the houses have been entirely stripped off, but fortunately there were no casualties among the inmates of the houses.

THE WAR.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

THE LAND OPERATIONS.

FIERCE BATTLE PROCEEDING BETWEEN BELGIAN AND
GERMAN TROOPS.LONDON, August 18th.
10.30 a.m.

A message from Brussels states that a fierce battle is proceeding between the Belgians and Germans along the extended front.

GERMANS AGAIN REPULSED BY FRENCH ARTILLERY.

LONDON, August 19th.
4.35 a.m.

The Germans, when making another attempt to cross the Meuse near Dinant, were repulsed by French artillery with considerable loss.

GREAT RUSSIAN SUCCESSES.

LONDON, August 18th.
3.10 p.m.

The Russians have occupied five points of German territory with the greatest success, taking hundreds of prisoners.

SUCCESSFUL DEFENCE OF BRUSSELS.

LONDON, August 18th.
6.45 p.m.

It is officially announced in Belgium that it appears that every raid on Brussels has been frustrated.

The German movement in North Belgium was apparently a feint.

THE BRITISH EXPEDITIONARY
FORCE.

THE KING'S INSPIRING MESSAGE TO HIS TROOPS.

LONDON, August 18th.
4.20 p.m.

His Majesty the King, in a Message to the troops, said:—

"You are leaving Home to fight for the safety and honour of my Empire. Belgium, whose country we are pledged to defend, has been attacked, and France is about to be invaded by the same powerful foe."

"I have implicit confidence in you, my soldiers. 'Duty' is your watchword, and I know your duty will be nobly done."

"I shall follow your every movement with the deepest interest, and mark with eager satisfaction your daily progress. Indeed, your welfare will never be absent from my thoughts."

"I pray God to bless you and guard you, and bring you home victorious."

LORD KITCHENER'S MESSAGE.

Lord Kitchener, Secretary of State for War, issued instructions to every soldier of the Expeditionary Force, to be kept in his pay-book. In them he says:—"You have been ordered abroad as a soldier of the King to help our French comrades against the invasion of a common enemy. You have to perform a task needing your courage, your energy, your patience. Remember that the honour of the British Army depends upon your individual conduct. It will be your duty not only to set an example in discipline and perfect steadiness under fire, but also to maintain most friendly relations with those whom you are helping in this struggle. The operations in which you will be engaged will for the most part take place in a friendly country. You can do your own country no better service than in showing yourself in France and Belgium in the true character of the British soldier. Be invariably courteous, considerate, and kind, and never do anything likely to injure or destroy property. Always look upon looting as a disgraceful act. You are sure to meet with a welcome, and be trusted. Your conduct must justify that welcome and that trust. Your duty cannot be done unless your health is sound, so keep constantly on your guard against any excesses. In this new experience you may find temptation both in wine and women. You must entirely resist both temptations, and while treating all women with perfect courtesy you should avoid any intimacy. Do your duty bravely, fear God, and honour the King."

GENERAL SMITH-DORRIEN TO COMMAND AN
ARMY CORPS.LONDON, August 18th.
3.55 p.m.

It is officially announced that General Sir H. L. Smith-Dorrien will command an Army Corps of the Expeditionary Force, in succession to General Sir J. M. Grierson.

[General Sir Horace Lockwood Smith-Dorrien, G.C.B., K.C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C., F.R.G.S., is a soldier of great experience. His army career up to date is as follows:—Entered Sherwood Foresters (Derby Regt.) 1876; Lt.-Col. 1899; served Zulul War, 1879 (despatches, medal, clasp); Egyptian War, 1882 (medal, Khedive's star); Nile Expedition, 1884 (with Egyptian Army; Sudan Campaign, 1885 (clasp); Sudan Frontier Field Force, 1885-86 (despatches, D.S.O., 4th class Medjidie); nominated to 4th class Osmanieh for services with Egyptian Army, 1887; D.A.A.G. Bengal, 1893-94; A.A.G. Punjab, 1894-1898; D.A.A.G. of Brigade in Central Relief Force, 1895; served in Tirah Campaign on North-West Frontier, India, 1897-1898 (despatches, Lt. Col., medal, 2 clasps); Nile Expedition, 1898 (despatches, Lt. Col.); Maj.-Gen. commanding a Brigade and a Division, South Africa, 1900 (despatches twice, promoted Maj.-Gen.; Queen's medal, 5 clasps); Adjutant-General in India, 1901-3; commanding 4th (Queen's) Division, India, 1903-7; Lieut.-General, 1908; General, 1912; Col. Sherwood Foresters; Commander-in-Chief, Aldershot, 1907-12; Southern Command since 1912.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LIEGE FORTS HOLDING OUT.

LONDON, August 18th.
1.35 a.m.

Official French despatches state that all the Liege Forts are holding out.

BELGIAN REFUGEES.

LONDON, August 19th.
10.30 a.m.

Many refugees are arriving at Tirlemont, a Belgian town.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

SECURING GERMAN BUSINESS FOR BRITISH FIRMS.

LONDON, August 18th.
8.5 p.m.

The Right Hon. Lewis Harcourt, Secretary of State for the Colonies, has been making inquiries regarding German and Austrian trade with the Colonies, in order to alleviate the loss of business and to secure that business for Great Britain and the Colonies. The Trade Commissioners have already secured samples of goods in which British manufacturers might compete.

Sir Edward Grey is obtaining similar information from British Consuls in neutral countries.

Mr. Harcourt intends the samples, etc., to be exhibited in London as soon as possible.

PRESIDENT WILSON'S WARNING TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

LONDON, August 18th.
8.40 p.m.

President Wilson, in an address to the American people, warns them against "That deepest and subtlest breach of neutrality which may spring out of partisanship, and out of passionately taking sides."

It is known that President Wilson looks with disfavour upon attempts to embroil the United States and Japan.

CANADA'S SPLENDID PATRIOTISM.

LONDON, August 19th.
4.35 a.m.

H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, in the Speech from the Throne convening the Canadian Parliament, emphasised the splendid response to the call to duty from every province. The same spirit, he said, inspired the whole Empire, and this united action to repel a common danger would not fail to strengthen the ties binding the Dominions.

GREEK AND TURKISH STATESMEN TO DISCUSS SITUATION.

LONDON, August 19th.
12.10 p.m.

Greek and Turkish statesmen are proceeding to Bucharest for a general discussion on the situation.

SERIOUS UNREST IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA.

LONDON, August 19th.
12.10 p.m.

Telegrams from Rome say that the unrest in Bosnia and Herzegovina is assuming the character of a formidable rising.

THE TSAR AND HIS PEOPLE.

LONDON, August 18th.
6.45 p.m.

The arrival of the Tsar at Moscow was heralded by the ringing of the bells of the city. The Imperial carriage passed slowly through the thronged streets, and the clergy of every church came out carrying ikons and banners. The public enthusiasm is immense.

GOLD INFUX CONTINUES.

LONDON, August 18th.
6.40 p.m.

The gold influx into the Bank of England since Saturday amounts to £1,250,000.

NAVAL NEWS.

"DESULTORY FIGHTING" IN THE NORTH SEA.

LONDON, August 19th.
1.35 a.m.

The Press Bureau announces that there was desultory fighting during Tuesday between British patrolling squadron flotillas and German reconnoitring cruisers.

No losses are reported or claimed.

A certain liveliness is apparent in the southern area of the North Sea.

CAPTURE OF A B. & S. BOAT.

NEWCHANG, August 5th.

One of Messrs. Butterfield & Swire's boats, the *Wing*, which left Shanghai for Tientsin on the 4th inst., was captured by a German man-of-war on the way. Another steamer belonging to the same firm, the *Kiaochow*, which arrived at Taicang on the other day, is detained there by the German authorities. Two of Butterfield & Swire's steamers have been detained at Tientsin, and two of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s ships are tied up in Wei-hai-wei. *Mainichi*.

The half-yearly financial statement of the Naigai Wata-Kabushiki Kaisha, Osaka, Japan, which has three spinning mills at Shanghai, showed a net profit for the half-year of Y.257,279, which, with Y.157,805 brought forward from last term, gave a balance of Y.415,135 for disposal. This was apportioned as follows:—Reserve Fund Y.30,000, Bonus Y.38,000, Dividends (at 15 per cent. p.a.) Y.224,500, carried forward to next term Y.112,635—Y.415,135.

WAR NOTES.

JAPAN AND TSINGTAO.

It is now clear that the policy of Japan has developed along lines making for participation in the war with the special object of attacking Tsingtao, says the Peking correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*.

A Chinese report some days ago stated that Count Okuma, Japanese Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs, suggested to the Chinese Government that China should consent to Japan coming to the country to assist in the maintenance of order. It is now stated that the Chinese Minister in Tokyo reports that a conference has been held between Count Okuma, Sir William Conyngham Greene, British Ambassador, and Mons. N. Malowicki, Malawicki, Russian Ambassador, which resulted in a definite arrangement being come to that Japan should represent both countries in their respective spheres of influence with liberty to act independently elsewhere.

If this report is true it means that Japan will attack Tsingtao, and the Chinese fear that it also means that she may become active in Fukien province, where she has long desired to obtain a footing. A Chinese Minister said this morning: "She has Manchuria, so why should she worry about that?"

The Chinese at present express their intention of resisting the advance of Japan, but they also realize the neutrality of China under protest in the hope that at the conclusion of the war the other Powers will see that she receives justice and does not lose territory.

It is regarded as certain that Japan will soon be actively engaged at Tsingtao, but high foreign authorities assert that it is untrue that Japan will be the guardian of the interests of Great Britain or Russia, or that she has the intention of being offensive to China.

ACTIVITY AT TSINGTAO.

Mr. Wm. Katz, the owner of the steamer *Hannamet*, which was detained in Tsingtao by the German authorities, arrived at Shanghai on the 18th inst. and stated that there are still several members of British troops remaining in the port, as well as a number of Japanese, but practically all the visitors have left. The captain and British officers of the steamer *Hannamet* are not being compulsorily detained in Tsingtao, but are remaining there for the present. The steamer now carries German officers, owing to the fact that she will probably continue to carry passengers between Shanghai and Tsingtao, and with the channels and entrances to the harbour mined, it would not be permissible to have a British crew. Tsingtao is well stocked with provisions. The cargo of the *Hannamet* was purchased by the Government authorities and the Russian Volunteer Fleet steamer, which was captured by the German cruiser *Emden*, also had a large cargo of canned and other goods on board. In addition, the port was already well supplied and is daily receiving fresh stocks from the hinterland.

JAPAN'S NAVAL ACTIVITY.

A Yokosuka despatch to the *Jiji* states that the squadron attached to the port, consisting of the battleships *Kawachi* (flagship), *Katori*, and *Asahi*, the cruisers *Kurama*, *Hashidate*, and *Sagami*, and a torpedo-boat flotilla, under the command of Admiral Prince Fushimi, recalled all men from shore leave, and all joined their ships on Wednesday, August 19th. The squadron was shipping coal, provisions, and munitions of war throughout the night and all Thursday. The cruiser *Kurama* (Captain Hirata), and the cruiser *Yashima*, the flagship of the first division of the squadron under the command of Rear Admiral Taniguchi, left Yokosuka on August 18th, and the rest of the squadron. The First Squadron, consisting of the *Kongo* (flagship), *Settsu*, *Sakuma*, *Suwa*, and *Yakagi*, under the command of Admiral Kato, which was ordered to suspend gun practice off Taiyama and recalled to Yokosuka on the 18th inst. A number of torpedo-boats and destroyers are to leave a day or two later. The destination of all these ships is not stated, says the *Japan Chronicle*, but this activity, though probably purely precautionary, is the subject of a good deal of more or less ingenious speculation.

DUC DE MONTENSIER'S YACHT OFFERED TO BRITISH AND FRENCH AMBASSADORS.

The Duc de Montensier, who is lying ill at Yokohama, has sent the following letter to the French and British Ambassadors at Tokyo:—

EXCELLENCE.
Ce n'est une douleur encore plus grande que toutes celles que j'ai à supporter que de ne trouver immobilisé par la maladie sans pouvoir suivre les clans de mon cœur et courir me mettre au service de mon pays.
Mon yacht *Lémos* est à Yokohama, muni d'appareils de télégraphie sans fil très puissants; je le mets entièrement à votre disposition ainsi qu'à celle de M. l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre.
Recevez, Excellence, l'expression de toute ma considération.
Signé: FERDINAND.
Duc de Montensier.

SHANGHAI COMPRADORES SUFFERING.

Many compradores in Shanghai are likely to experience heavy losses. One instance is quoted in which a comprador was several thousands of dollars short, this state of affairs being brought about by loans made to employees. The position of these compradores is rather serious.

FRENCH GUNBOAT HELD UP.

The French gunboat *Doudard de Lagrée* arrived at Shanghai from the Yangtze River on the 18th inst. and after dismantling will remain there until the European crisis is over.

SHIPPING AT SHANGHAI.

The I.-C.S. *Lienshing*, which left Shanghai for Wei-hai-wei, Chaofo, and Tientsin on the 2nd inst., has arrived in Tientsin safely. There was a rumour current on the 12th inst. that the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Co. had received news that firing had begun at Tsingtao. An inquiry at the local offices of the Company ascertained that no such news had been received. The last information received from Tsingtao was to the effect that the C.M.S. *Anping* had left that port on Tuesday night, carrying 870 passengers, principally Chinese. Although reports have been circulated that a German cruiser is lying near the mouth of the Yangtze River, it is significant that the C.N.S. *Luchow* left Shanghai for Hongkong on the 12th inst., the I.-C.S.S. *Kingking* and *Chipping* left for Wei-hai-wei, Chaofo, and Tientsin, and the River boats and Ningpo steamers are running as usual.

FROM THE RUSSIAN PRESS.

PRIZES OF WAR.
A Russian official communiqué, published in Vladivostok on the 7th inst., states that it is the intention of the Government to suppress all communications relative to the movement of troops, and requests the co-operation of the people in keeping all military matters as secret as possible. Only brief announcements will be made regarding the progress of the campaign, and it is hoped that the people will realize and appreciate the necessity for this course.

The Russian Fleet are reported to have taken many merchantmen as prizes of war. Six ships were taken at Libau, three at Odessa, and one, the *Altan*, at Novorossiisk.

PRO-RUSSIAN JAPANESE.
The Japanese colony at Vladivostok, numbering about 1,000 people, held a demonstration on the evening of the 6th inst. The majority of them joined in a procession, carrying lanterns, and flags bearing the words "Banzai Russia." They assembled outside the house of the Governor-General, and the British, French, and Japanese Consulates, at the latter singing the national anthems of Russia and Japan.

The Vladivostok newspapers publish a report that the Japanese Consul there has stated that Japan intends to go hand in hand with Great Britain, France, and Russia. The statement is said to have been made in consequence of a report that Germany and Austria were negotiating with Japan.

The Czechs in Vladivostok are reported to have expressed themselves as being in full sympathy with Russia.

The Germans are reported to have made an unsuccessful attempt to destroy cable communication between Russia and Great Britain.

It is reported that a vessel captured by the Germans at Tsingtao is to be sailed between Shanghai and Tsingtao under the American flag.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF ALGIERS.
According to a message to Vladivostok, about sixty shots were fired by the German cruisers in the bombardment of Algiers. Several houses were damaged and one man was killed. Upon leaving, the cruisers sailed eastward.

The Governor of Algiers appears to have been responsible for the announcement that the cruisers afterwards met British men-of-war.

TOKYO AND THE WAR.

Writing under the above heading in the *Japan Advertiser*, Mr. Akimoto Shun says: The public nerves which had been till about a week ago inflated and stupefied by the heat of summer, are now braced up, and become as tight as the money. Many sojourners in summer resorts are coming back to town, many more are giving up their proposed trips and other pleasure schemes. The theatres, picture shows, and restaurants have experienced a sudden fall in their custom. The people in general pursue up their money bags and have begun to economize; also they look sharp and brisk and serious; not to say grim and self-important. Their eyes gleam and their mouths are compressed. Some of them look even offended and cross, and their faces refuse to relax even at the sight of a beautiful woman. All this is no wonder when you consider the immensity of the stake involved in the war. The very imagination shrinks from picturing the inferno of human carnage which is about to be presented in the vast European cockpit.

FACTS ABOUT THE KIEL CANAL.

From the *British Naval Annual* for 1913 is taken the following relative to the Kiel Canal:—

The most striking example to date of completed canal, made in the first instance for strategic purposes, is the famous Kaiser Wilhelm Canal from Kiel on the Baltic to Brunsbüttel on the North Sea.

Commercial advantage is here far to seek, but this had no influence with the rulers of the German Empire, to whom the money allocated for the construction of the water-way was only part of the whole expenditure that was to render Germany great and strong upon the sea. The doing is evident to any one who takes a glance at the map, avoiding as it does narrow and tortuous channels easily mined and defended, and the passage through stormy and foggy seas around the Skaw back into German waters.

"Eight millions sterling went to the construction of the Kiel Canal, and hardly was it completed when, by the construction of the Dreadnought, the water-way became obsolete. Seventy-two feet width of floor and a depth of 29 1/2 feet were to be constructed in the Fæderland, but she did not hesitate to shoulder the fresh burden, and set to work to double the size of the just completed water-way. It cost another twelve millions sterling. It will cost yet by a considerable sum in mere upkeep."

"Considering where it is situated, it is never, perhaps, likely to return a dividend on the money expended. The dividend that it earns is the safety that it provides for German warships in their passage from sea to sea, the time it saves in passing them from one area of battle to another. When we consider this, it would be a bold man who would say that the money has been ill expended."

WAR TELEGRAMS.

ANTI-BRITISH FEELING IN TSINGTAO.

CHOUTSUN, August 10th.
The British subjects who were staying at Tsingtao have all been ordered away by the resident Vice-Consul who has been instructed to depart himself as soon as his nationals have gone. Even if no such order had been issued the strength of the anti-British feeling at present manifested in Tsingtao would have made it very unwise for Britons to remain there. In one case a party of Britons who were staying at a Tsingtao pension were completely ostracized by the German guests who were staying there. A few days ago an English lady entered one of the large stores to make some purchases, but before she could state her needs she was gruffly ordered out of the shop by the German proprietor.

All visitors, of whatever nationality, have been ordered away from the cottages at Ilits Huk, which would be in the direct line of fire in the event of fighting taking place. The Strand Hotel has also been closed for the same reason.

Some nights ago an attack on Tsingtao was evidently expected, for elaborate precautions were made. Not a single light of any description was allowed anywhere along the whole sea front, and as soon as it became dark the streets everywhere were entirely deserted and the whole town became like a city of the dead. But nothing happened, and, by morning, people began to breathe freely once more.

UNREST AMONG CHINESE.
News of war has given rise to many wild rumours amongst the Chinese in the West of Shantung, where the people have become somewhat unsettled.

The Deutsch-Asiatische bank-notes which formerly brought a better price than any kind of silver dollars are no longer useable in ordinary commerce, although there is no difficulty experienced in getting them cashed at the R.-A. Bank.

RUMOURS OF JAPANESE ESPIONAGE DENIED.

TSINGTAO, August 12th.
It having become known here that rumours have been spread amongst the British residents of Tientsin that three Japanese have been arrested in Tsingtao on charges of espionage, Mr. Munemura, Chancellor of the Japanese Consulate at Tsingtao, has telegraphed to the Japanese Consulate in Tientsin as follows:—"The rumours spread amongst English residents of Tientsin about the arrest and execution of Japanese under the charge of espionage are absolutely baseless. All Japanese in Tsingtao are quite and safe."

FIGHTING ON THE AUSTRIAN AND RUSSIAN FRONTIER.

HARBIN, August 12th.
The St. Petersburg Telegraphic Agency states that Austrian troops are massing in the vicinity of Baranov and are crossing the river Vistula near Sosnovitski, while small German detachments have occupied Viatlavsk on the Vistula.

Fighting continued throughout Friday and Saturday near Berestechko, where the Russians repulsed the Austrians, who retreated to Radziviloff. The Austrians again retired, setting fire to Brody, which the Russians afterwards occupied, extinguishing the flames. Many Austrians wounded and prisoners have been brought into Berestechko. It is stated that the Austrians are fighting unwillingly and that many are voluntarily surrendering.

[Baranov is in Galicia, on the right bank of the Vistula. Radziviloff is in the Russian Government of Volhynia and is near the Austrian frontier town of Brody. The latter is an important centre of trade with Russia and the population is given as over 20,000.]

HARBIN, August 12th.
No serious conflicts are occurring on the Austro-Russian frontier, although the Austrians are retreating.

The St. Petersburg Telegraphic Agency publishes a telegram from Vilna stating that six cars containing German prisoners have passed through that city.

N.D.L. STEAMER CAPTURED BY AUSTRALIAN SQUADRON.

SYDNEY, August 5th.
On Wednesday morning, says the Melbourne correspondent of the *Herald*, the battery opened fire on the N.D.L. steamer *Fals*, which attempted to leave the harbour. The German steamer got away, but was soon afterwards captured at sea by the Australian Squadron.

COAL FOR THE BRITISH SQUADRON.

NAGASAKI, August 6th.
Acting under instructions of the British Ambassador at Tokyo, the Consul here has bought 3,000 tons of coal. The stock of coal held here for the British Squadron is always large, but the purchase referred to is in addition to the usual large reserve.

CONDITIONS IN JAVA.

BATAVIA, August 6th.
The postal authorities have announced that no code messages will be telegraphed from here, and all British ships in harbour have been instructed not to move until further orders. German steamers are detained at Macassar. Business here is almost entirely suspended. There has been a run on the Java Bank of people who want to change notes for gold, and prices of commodities have gone up from 20 to 30 per cent. An order has been issued prohibiting the export of Java rice.

TSAR'S UNCLE REPORTED A PRISONER.

ST. PETERSBURG, August 5th.
Prince Constantin Constantinovitch, the uncle of the Tsar, has been captured by the German troops and is detained as a prisoner.

THE HONGKONG BANK CASE.

GUTIERREZ SEVERELY CROSS-EXAMINED.

YESTERDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

At the Criminal Sessions yesterday Mr. Justice Gompertz, acting Chief Justice, continued the trial of Antonio Filomeno Remedios, indicted on a charge of conspiring with Reginaldo Oliverio Gutierrez to defraud the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on April 10th, 1914, and on divers other dates between that and June 27th.

Mr. G. C. Alabaster, instructed by Mr. Lewis (of Messrs. Johnston, Stokes & Master), prosecuted, and Mr. F. C. Jenkin, instructed by Mr. Crew (of Messrs. Hastings & Hastings), defended. The jury, comprised—Messrs. N. Drummond (foreman) G. M. Powell, E. Abraham, T. W. Mackay, G. Lee, J. A. Taggart, and J. Fasse.

Gutierrez, who turned King's evidence, continued the story of his relations with Remedios, under examination by Mr. Alabaster. Describing a meeting with Remedios at the Carlton Hotel on May 4th he said it lasted from after dinner till 1 a.m. On the 5th he saw Remedios at Messrs. Jardine, Matheson's office and at this meeting a letter was prepared.

Witness subsequently handed Remedios an envelope addressed to "Richardson, Singapore," and he put two letters into it. Some time during the month witness received a letter from Remedios; he kept it in fact until the day he was arrested, when he tore it up. The letter produced (fragments pasted on a piece of paper) was the one he referred to.

Mr. Alabaster, quoting names in the letter, asked witness to whom they referred. Witness replied that he was "Stoker," defendant was "Delphine" and "Suzanne" was a man named Pereira.

Mr. Alabaster read a portion of the torn letter, in which reference was made to the defendant (who wrote it) having waited all day for the "Stoker." As he did not appear, he added, "we went for a joy-ride." Defendant also wrote that he received a telegram from Penang and also a letter, in which "Richardson" said he would agree to the proposal regarding the letter of credit, and would send for Anderson (Collaco) for him to explain the matter to him.

Witness was next questioned as to communications which have passed between himself and prisoner in the gaol.

Mr. Alabaster—During the past few days you have been in Victoria Gaol?—Yes.

Has any communication passed between you there?—Yes.

Tell us how it began—He asked me to turn my evidence, otherwise he would tell a lot of lies, and witness would get seven years in gaol.

When did he say this?—On many occasions.

In the gaol?—Yes.

Has he said anything else to you there?—On Thursday last between 12 and 1 o'clock he passed my cell and gave me a piece of paper.

Mr. Alabaster read the communication, which was identified by witness, as follows: On the other side was the injunction, "Destroy this after reading." "Dear Reggie, I have just had a long talk with my solicitor and he says if you turn the evidence everybody will get off, so I hope you will play the game and make arrangements, but don't be afraid."

Mr. Jenkin then opened his cross-examination. In reply to his questions witness said it was correct that for some days he stood in the dock at the Magistracy with prisoner, and heard the evidence given against him. It was telling badly against you, wasn't it?—Not exactly.

Did you hear the Magistrate say that so far as he could see there was no evidence against Remedios?—Yes.

Do you know that it was immediately after that statement that you turned King's evidence?—No.

Why did you turn King's evidence?—Witness did not answer until this question had been repeated several times. At last he said—"Because I had told Mr. Messer that I wrote the photographed letter."

Who suggested that you should turn King's evidence?—Nobody.

To whom did you suggest it?—To my solicitor.

Witness further said that he did not expect to gain anything for taking up this position. He admitted that it was he who suggested the forging of the letter of credit and gave the details for it. The only letter which was in ordinary handwriting was in his handwriting and was signed by him. He wrote one letter to "Richardson" and addressed two envelopes to him.

Witness was asked to explain why it was that the two letters put in the envelope addressed to "Richardson, Post

Restants, Singapore," reached "Richardson" in an envelope addressed to 4, Devonshire Road, Singapore, and he replied that defendant must have addressed the letters after witness gave them to him.

It was not true, witness declared, to say that he did not address letters for defendant, but when he wrote the envelopes he was addressing them for his own letters, written by himself. He did not expect his arrest, but he tore up the letters two or three days before, and threw them under his desk.

Mr. Jenkin—The only two letters which distinctly deal with the fraud are those which you put into the envelope which you had addressed? The others are about women and other matters?—Yes.

Questioning witness about the torn letter Mr. Jenkin asked him who pieced the fragments together.

Witness said he did; and Mr. Jenkin added, "I suppose you enjoyed doing it; it revived old scenes?"

Witness did not reply. Later on he was asked why his initials and address appeared on the back of each of his envelopes to "Richardson," and answered that defendant asked him to do it.

Mr. Jenkin—And you did it like a lamb? Your case is, I suppose, that defendant was the master mind, that he was conducting the whole of the correspondence and receiving answers from "Richardson," and yet you put your name and address on the back?

Witness made no reply. In answer to further questions he said that in addition to his position in the office of Jardine, Matheson & Co., defendant carried on a hardware import business for a number of large Chinese firms. Defendant had an account at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, but he did not know if his financial position was good. Witness was personally often a little hard up, but had not borrowed money from defendant.

Mr. Jenkin—You have had heavy expenses to meet in connection with matters mentioned in letters M and N?—Witness did not reply.

His Lordship—I don't think there is any objection to your speaking out plainly. The witness will understand you better.

Mr. Jenkin—You have had heavy expenses to meet in connection with visits to ladies on the upper levels, have you not?—No.

Hon. Mr. McL. Messer, Captain Superintendent of Police, was next called. He spoke to receiving from the Singapore Police copies and photographs of letters produced in the case. It was in consequence of this and inquiries in Hongkong that defendant and Gutierrez were arrested. He saw Gutierrez at the Bank and dictated the photographed letter to him. He mispelt a word which was spelt wrongly in the photographed letter.

Police Inspector Torrett gave evidence, and in reply to Mr. Jenkin said Gutierrez helped him to reconstruct the torn letters found in the bank.

It provided a good deal of amusement, did it not?—No; it was rather difficult. It took three hours.

You and Gutierrez have collaborated in this case a good deal, haven't you?—No. My mistake?—Yes. (Laughter.)

You have not had any discussion with Gutierrez except about this case?—I never discuss cases with prisoners.

Not when they turn King's evidence?—That makes no difference.

Witness reiterated the statement he made in the Police Court that when they were confronted with one another Remedios said he didn't know Gutierrez.

The reason Mr. Messer did not remember hearing this might be that he did not attach much importance to it at the time.

Angus Sinclair, Superintendent of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., said that Remedios was formerly his clerk. The writing on the documents produced appeared to be in the handwriting of the prisoner.

Evidence as to the recovery of various documents was given by Sergt. Clarke and Inspector O'Sullivan, and Ho Im, coproprietor of the Mercantile Bank, in whose employ the man Ribeiro formerly was, said that the documents produced were in his handwriting.

Mr. Dovey, assistant in the Royal Observatory, was called to speak as to the similarity of the handwriting on the various documents. All the documents produced were, in his opinion, in the same handwriting.

Answering Mr. Jenkin witness said that the curriculum of the Royal Observatory did not of course include handwriting. The study of handwriting, he added, was partly a hobby of his, but did not form part of his official work.

Have you ever previously given expert evidence on handwriting in a Court before?—No.

How long have you regarded yourself as an expert?—About two years.

I suppose the Inspector told you that he had suspicions that these documents were in the handwriting of the same person?—Yes.

And that was something to work upon, was it not?—It indicated a line.

Handing two documents to the witness, Mr. Jenkin asked—For my self-edification and enlightenment, will you tell me how you arrive at the conclusion that they were written by the same man?—I tell by the measurements of the letters and the angles.

How do you mean?—I take an average, and they have all to tally to within five per cent.

Witness then handed in his mathematical deductions to Counsel, giving the measurements of the various letters and the mean average obtained, which was within five per cent.

Mr. Jenkin pointed out that there were heaps of different measurements to the various letters. He called attention to an "R" which was given as 813 and a "G" which was given as 384, remarking, "and of course they come within the five per cent. average. So that if the actual figures do not at all tally, but the average of five per cent. is obtained, then the handwriting must be the same. Is that not so? (Laughter.)—Yes.

But have you no other means of arriving at a conclusion? This seems rather shaky to me, but the jury may be able to grasp the meaning of it all—Oh, yes.

I see you have at the end of the mathematical table something about nerve tremors. (Laughter.) How many nerve tremors has Richardson got? (Laughter.) Is there anything here to

show his nerve tremors? I take it, also, that these nerve tremors depend upon the time they are taken; they would probably vary in the evening. (Laughter.) Oh, and you have something here about the lateral nerve tremors. (Renewed laughter.)

Witness explained that these nerve tremors were produced by the temperament of the person, and they also were produced by the manner in which the writing arm rested on the desk.

Answering Mr. Alabaster witness said that the preparation of his mathematical analysis of the handwriting had occupied twenty-five hours.

Mr. Jenkin—And that does not make it correct.

Gutierrez was recalled by Mr. Jenkin and questioned with regard to a small typewritten document. "The document," Mr. Jenkin remarked, "speaks about 25,000, and is addressed to 'My darling Delphine,' and speaks about a girl. Who wrote that?—I did; someone typed it for me."

Who?—Mr. Hyndman.

Has he gone away?—I do not know. Mr. Jenkin said he had been informed that Mr. Hyndman was still at the Bank, and then remarked to Gutierrez—"This little chit about 'Darling Delphine,' I suppose it is about a little spree you had the night before?—Not me."

Well, it was a little spree, and who had it is quite an unimportant matter. At any rate, you got your friend Mr. Hyndman to type this for you and you signed it?—Yes.

He is an obliging sort of person, isn't he; does he write all your love-letters for you? (Laughter.)—I wrote this out first, made a rough draft, and then handed it to Mr. Hyndman to type for me.

During office hours?—Yes.

Then between you and your nice lot of time of the Bank was wasted?—Yes.

But this 25,000; it seems a large amount to pay for a night's spree? (Laughter.) Witness did not reply, whereupon Mr. Jenkin asked—Does not it really mean 25p, and that that was the cost of the spree?—Yes.

The hearing was adjourned.

INTIMATIONS

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[942]

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Hongkong, 20th August, 1914. [1063]

NOTIFICATION.

FROM THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF NORWAY IN SHANGHAI.

UNDER the War, broken out among various European Powers, Norway has declared itself Neutral.
By Order of the Minister for Foreign Affairs in Christiania, Notice is hereby given to Norwegian Subjects and Norwegian Vessels to observe strict neutrality.
Shanghai, 7th August, 1914.
J. J. EITZEN,
Acting Consul-General for Norway, in China and Hongkong. [1061]

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[1343]

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INTIMATIONS

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE OF ORDINARY AND EXTRAORDINARY MEETINGS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ORDINARY HALF-YEARLY MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS in this Corporation will be held at the CITY HALL, Hongkong, on SATURDAY, the 22nd day of August, 1914, at NOON, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Court of Directors together with a Statement of Accounts to 30th June, 1914, and for the confirmation of the election of Directors.

THE REGISTER OF SHARES of the Corporation will be CLOSED from MONDAY, the 10th August, to SATURDAY, the 22nd August, 1914 (both days inclusive), during which period no transfer of Shares can be registered.

AND NOTICE is hereby also given that at the same place and on the same day at Noon or so soon afterwards as the Ordinary Half-Yearly Meeting shall be concluded an Extraordinary Meeting of the Shareholders in this Corporation will be held when the proposed Resolutions will be proposed as Extraordinary Resolutions:—

- (1) That the Directors of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation be and they are hereby requested and authorised by and on behalf of the shareholders of the Company to take the steps necessary to apply for the introduction of an Ordinance into the Legislative Council of the Colony of Hongkong supplemental to THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK ORDINANCE 1860, and the enactment of the same by the Governor of Hongkong with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof to effect the amendment of Section 30 of THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK ORDINANCE 1860, hereafter set out with such modifications (if any) as they may think fit and to accept such Ordinances if and when enacted.

The following is the amendment above referred to:—The deletion from Section 30 of the said Ordinance of the words, "To take and accept any lands, houses, or other real or personal property in satisfaction, liquidation, or payment of any debt absolutely and bona fide previously due and owing to the Company, and also to take any mortgage or other lien or charge on real or personal property as a security for any monies actually and bona fide previously due to the Company or for which any person may have rendered himself liable to the Company, and to hold such lands, houses and other real and personal property respectively for such reasonable time as may be necessary for selling and disposing of and converting the same into money," and the substitution thereof of the following words:—"To take, accept, enforce, release, realise or deal with any security now held or which may hereafter be held by the Company, for any monies owing or to become owing to the Company, or for any liabilities incurred or to be incurred towards or by the Company by way of mortgage, pledge, hypothecation, deposit or otherwise howsoever of every kind of property or rights."

- (2) That the Deed of Settlement of the Company be altered in manner following:—

- (a) That the following words be struck out of lines two and three of Article 66, namely, the words "for not exceeding fifteen days before and seven days after every ordinary Meeting" and that the following words be adopted and substituted therefor, namely, "during such time as the Court thinks fit, not exceeding in the whole thirty days in each year."

- (b) That the following words be struck out of the last line of Article 66, namely, "after the Meeting" and that the following words be adopted and substituted therefor, namely, "after the re-opening of the Register."

- (c) That Articles 76, 77 and 78 be cancelled.

- (d) That the following Articles be adopted and substituted for Articles 76, 77 and 78, namely:—

ARTICLE 76.—"General Meetings shall be held once in every year, at such time and place in the Colony as may be prescribed by the Company in General Meeting, and if no such time or place is prescribed, then at such time and place as may be determined by the Court, and unless and until otherwise prescribed or determined as aforesaid a General Meeting shall be held in the month of February in every year."

ARTICLE 77.—"The General Meetings mentioned in the last preceding Article shall be called Ordinary Meetings."

ARTICLE 78.—"All other General Meetings shall be called Extraordinary Meetings."

- (e) That Article 90 be altered by inserting the word "holding" in line five thereof the words "or representing by proxy" and by striking out at the end of the said Article the words "present in person."

- (f) That the following words be added to Article 94:—"The Court may from time to time pay to the Shareholders such interim dividends as appear to be justified by the position of the Company."

- (g) That the following words be struck out of the first three and a half lines of Article 174, namely, the words "Half-year ending the 30th June and the 31st December, shall make a general Half-Yearly," and that the following words be adopted and substituted therefor:—"Year ending the 31st day of December shall make a General."

INTIMATIONS

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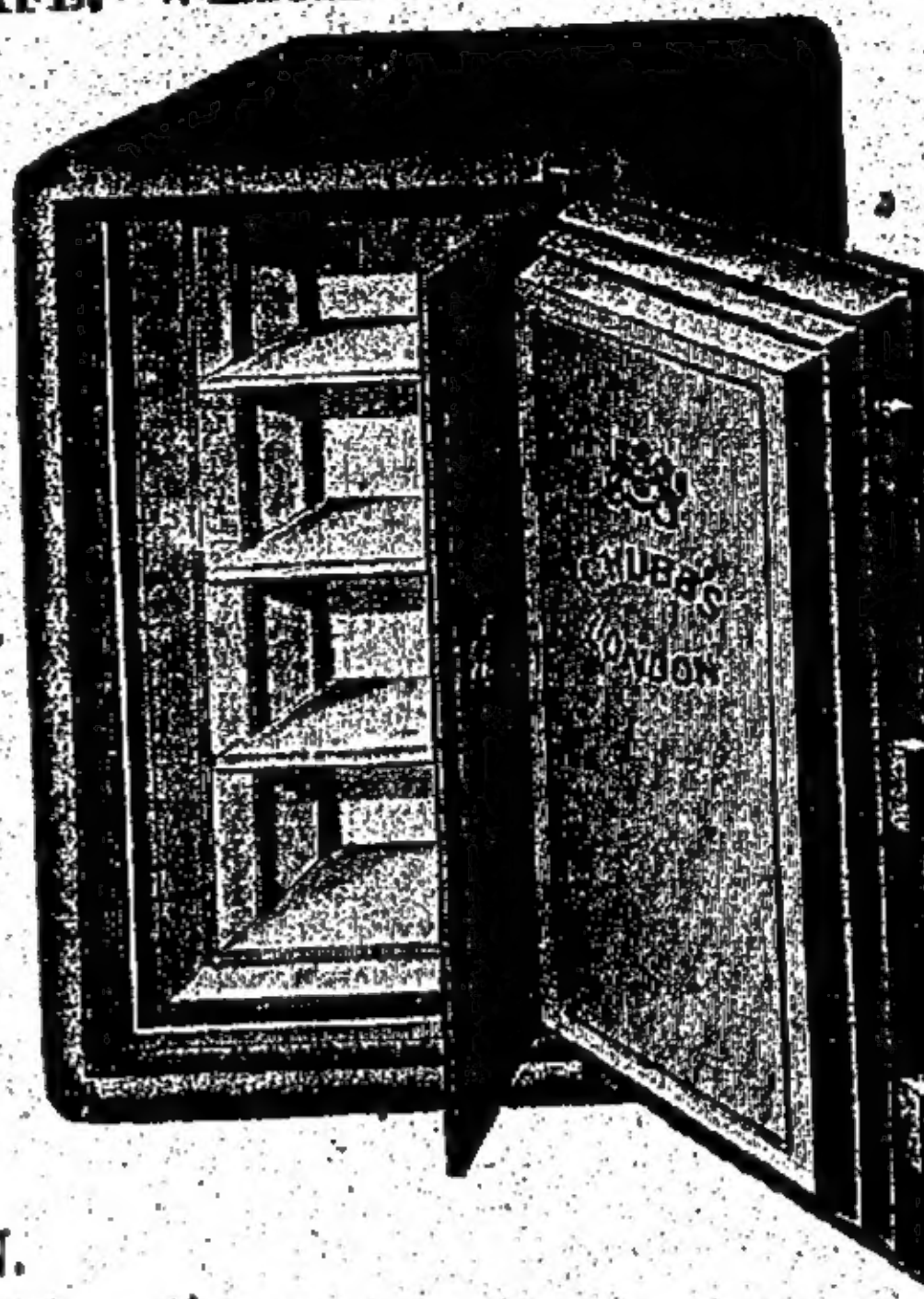
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- (b) That the word "Half" be struck out of the 18th line of Article 174 and also out of the 8th line of Article 176.
- (i) That the word "twice" and the words "the 30th day of June and 5 of Article 178" be struck out of lines 4 and 5 of Article 178 and that the word "once" be adopted and substituted for the word "twice" in the fourth line thereof.
- (j) That the words "or the Ordinary Half-Yearly" and the words "as the case may be" be struck out of lines 10 and 11 of Article 177.

Should the Second Resolution be passed by the required majority, it will be submitted for confirmation as a special Resolution to a Second Extraordinary Meeting which will be subsequently convened.

By Order of the Court of Directors.
(Signed) A. G. STEPHEN,
Acting Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 21st July, 1914. [1063]

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K. TSUDZURABARA, Manager.
Hongkong, 19th February, 1914. [948]

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Acting Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 14th May, 1914. [16]

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ESTABLISHED 1863.

Authorised Capital Fl. 30,000,000 (\$2,500,000)
Paid-up Capital ... Fl. 17,407,000 (\$1,450,580)
Reserve Fund ... Fl. 6,518,000 (\$543,168)

HEAD OFFICE: AMSTERDAM.
HEAD AGENCY: BATAVIA.

LONDON BANKERS: THE WILLIAMS DEACONS BANK, SWISS BANKVEREIN.

The Bank transacts every description of Banking and Exchange business, receives money on Current Account and on Fixed Deposit at rates which may be ascertained on application.

G. VERMEY, Manager,
No. 8, Des Voeux Road Central.
Hongkong, 3rd October, 1913. [121]

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.

Authorised Capital \$1,500,000
Subscribed " 1,125,000
Paid-up " 562,500
Reserve Fund " 465,000

BANKERS: BANK OF ENGLAND, and LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, LIMITED.

Every description of Exchange business transacted.

INTEREST allowed on Current Account at 2 per cent. per annum on Daily Balance and on Fixed Deposits at rates which may be ascertained on application.

A. R. LINTON, Manager.
Hongkong, 10th July, 1914. [149]

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853.
HEAD OFFICE—LONDON.

Paid-up Capital \$1,200,000
Reserve Fund " 1,800,000
Reserve Liability of Proprietors \$1,200,000

FOREIGN EXCHANGE and General Banking business transacted.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and FIXED DEPOSITS received for 1 year or shorter periods at rates which will be quoted on application.
WM. DICKSON, Manager.
Hongkong, 8th June, 1914. [1494]

NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamer
"HIMALAYA"
Arrived Hongkong on 12th Aug. 1914.
From BOMBAY, COLOMBO AND STRAITS.

Consignees of Cargo by the above-named vessel are hereby informed that their goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each Consignment will be sorted out Mark by Mark and delivery can be obtained as the Goods are landed.

This vessel brings on Cargo:—
From London, &c., on a "Moresa."
From Panama, Colon, &c., on B. I. S. N. and B. P. S. N. Co.'s Steamers.

Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary within 24 hours.

Goods not cleared within 8 days including date of arrival will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.

Damaged packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignees, and the Company's Surveyors, Messrs. GODDARD and DOUGLAS, at 10 a.m. on MONDAYS and TUESDAYS. All claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognised.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the Godowns.

E. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent.
Hongkong, 13th August, 1914. [1]

AMERICAN AND MANCHURIAN LINE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM NEW YORK AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship

"KENTUCKY"

Captain A. Lee, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, Kowloon, and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on MONDAY, the 24th Aug., at 10 a.m.

All Claims must be presented within FIFTEEN DAYS of the Steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognised.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 24th Aug. will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., Agents.
Hongkong, 17th August, 1914. [1049]

"SHIRE" LINE OF STEAMERS, LTD.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM EUROPE.

THE Steamship

"DEN OF AIRLIE"

having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.

Goods not cleared by the 24th Aug. will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 24th Aug., at 9.30 a.m.

Claims against the Steamer must be presented within 10 days of arrival, otherwise they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd., Agents.
Hongkong, 17th August, 1914. [49]

ON SALE.

A TABLE OF THE

RATES OF EXCHANGE AT BOMBAY

For Demand Drafts on London on the day of or preceding the departure of the English Mails; also Table of the Yearly Approximate Average for 30 years.

From 1874 to 1909.
PRICE \$2 CASH.

On Sale at the DAILY PRESS Office or Local Booksellers.

CHILDREN OF FAR CATHAY.

A SOCIAL AND POLITICAL NOVEL OF

ABSORBING INTEREST.

By CHAS. J. HALCOMBE,

Formerly of the Imperial Chinese Customs

Service, Author of "The Mystic Flowery Land," etc.

THE VOLUME, which consists of 491

Pages, and includes a Sketch Plan of historical interest showing the disposition of the Forces at the battle of Kweilin, is dedicated to Sir ROBERT HART, G.C.M.G., and Dr. A. RENNIE.

Its description of Chinese Social Customs and Superstitions, combined with the insight it gives into political conditions in China

SOLE AGENTS IN HONGKONG
LANE CRAWFORD & CO.
and from ALL WINE MERCHANTS.

MORE HUMAN DISCIPLINE REQUIRED.

Discipline alone is only good so long as there is an ever-present authority to enforce it; on the modern battlefield it is impossible for an officer adequately to supervise his men, and to enforce discipline. He can and should teach these in peace-time how best to handle their weapons, and all the other tricks of the trade, but once in presence of the enemy he cannot enforce his teachings; all he can do is to lead his men and to encourage them. He is in exactly the same position as the father who has launched his son upon the battle of life. He must rely upon the past training of his son, certainly, but above all upon his individuality, courage, and devotion. The German officer relies only upon discipline, and he runs the risk of being badly let down at the crucial moment. Courage, determination, "amour propre," and individual enterprise are all stronger than the fear of death, but it has yet to be proven that the modern educated man will risk death rather than contravene discipline. Wherefore, I maintain that in our present state of civilisation the German system of organisation and training is fundamentally wrong. I do not believe that force of habit (*alias* discipline) alone will induce men to face the dangers and hardships which have to be faced to carry on a successful war.

As regards artillery, it is very difficult to speak for I am convinced that, so far as this arm is concerned, everything depends upon the capacity of quickly picking up a target and hitting it. At maneuvers, it is impossible to judge these two vital points, and such shooting statistics as do from time to time leak out are meant for foreign consumption, and are unreliable. The German engineer is too theoretical. Given the necessary material and unlimited time, he would construct the most model works imaginable, but in warfare what is wanted is a man who will contrive the essential out of the most unpromising material, and in the shortest possible space of time. I have seen their engineers bridging the Rhine with pontoons; they did it beautifully and by "numbers"; that pontoon might have been used for demonstration purposes. Unfortunately, however, the pleasure steamer barged in it, and then it took them eighteen hours to get it together again. I have seen the Greek engineers throw a crazy bridge across the Struma under heavy artillery fire in thirty minutes; there was not a correct lashing in the whole structure, and you could not go across it without getting wet, but it served its purpose, and wet feet do not matter much in war-time!

We often hear much talk of militarism, but people in this country have no conception of what the term means—one must go to Germany to understand. In England, wealth and position are the passports to courtesy and consideration; in Germany, one wears one's passport on one's back in the guise of a uniform; and according to the number of stars upon one's shoulder-straps, or the gold braid upon one's cuff, so is one's value appraised. A shade of seniority in rank or service entitles the holder to the servile obedience of all juniors, and woe betide the subaltern who does not treat his captain as a demi-god. The officers do not live in mess, and there is none of that camaraderie and good fellowship of intimacy which turn a British regiment into a happy family. In Germany officers and men alike are always on their parade behaviour. I have likened the German Army to a machine, but it is one in which all the parts are in an everlasting state of un-oiled friction against each other.

In spite of all the alarmists say, there is much hope in the idea that German military power is a highly inflated bubble, of brilliant hues, but susceptible of being pricked and burst. The only question is—who is to burst it, and when?

